



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THOMAS M. MENINO

April 3, 2009

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an appropriation order in the amount of six hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$625,000.00) for the Cemetery Division of the Parks and Recreation Department to be funded from the Cemetery Trust Fund established under Chapter 13 of the Acts of 1961.

I urge your Honorable Body to pass this order as expeditiously as possible so that the Cemetery Division can continue its important work.

Respectfully,

Thomas M. Menino
Mayor
City of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDERED: That the sum of six hundred twenty-five thousand (\$625,000.00) be and hereby is, appropriated out of the fund established under Chapter 13 of the Acts 1961 known as the Cemetery Trust Fund as follows:

For the expansion and infrastructure improvements of Mount Hope Cemetery. \$600,000

For the replacement of a 1991 Ford F450 dump truck for the City's cemeteries. \$25,000



Boston City Council

Committee on Ways & Means

Report of Committee Chair

The Boston City Council's Committee on Ways & Means held a public hearing on **Friday, April 24, 2009 @ 10:00 a.m.** The hearing was held in the Christopher A. Iannella Chamber. This matter was sponsored by Mayor Menino and referred to the Committee on Ways & Means on Wednesday, April 8, 2009.

The subject of the hearing was **Docket #0506** - Message and order approving an appropriation of \$625,000.00 for the Cemetery Division of the Parks and Recreation Department.

This is a separate capital appropriation for FY09 to fund capital repairs at Mount Hope Cemetery. Jerry Carchedi, Assistant Commissioner, Administration and Finance and Bernie Lynch, Assistant Commissioner, Operations and Stanley Ivan, Chief Engineer were present and testified at this hearing.

The Parks Department identified a need for the special capital appropriation totaling \$625,000 and the appropriation was approved by the Treasury Division which oversees and manages the Cemetery Division Trust Fund. The balance of the fund today is \$8,500,000. There is sufficient funding in place to support this appropriation. Below is a summary prepared by the Parks Department that outlines the expenditure.

Mount Hope Cemetery Expansion (\$200,000)

At current burial rates, Mount Hope Cemetery will run out of burial plots in spring 2009. Approval of this request will allow burials to be completed at Mount Hope for an additional 2.5 years. When combined with Fairview Cemetery expansion planned in 2-3 years (which will require a future authorization request), enough capacity will exist to enable burials until 2020.

Mount Hope Cemetery Wall Repair (\$140,000)

The wall along Harvard Street at Mount Hope Cemetery is in deplorable and disrespectful condition due to long-overdue repairs that have not been done. Minor repairs have been completed over the past year; however, due to past and continuing traffic conditions, the wall continues to suffer damages from vehicles driving into it. Approval of this request would enable repairs and concrete cap installation for 500-600 feet of stone masonry wall. No request is being made at this time to replace fencing on top of the wall on this section, or to repair fence on other wall sections, until a more permanent traffic solution is crafted.

Mount Hope Cemetery Entranceway Renovation (\$150,000)

Approval of this request would provide a new repaved entranceway with new sidewalks for pedestrian access, landscaping and signage; and would provide a positive first impression of these consecrated grounds.

Roadway Paving (\$110,000)

Approval of this request would provide approximately 15,000 square feet of roadway paving repair within Mount Hope Cemetery.

Equipment Replacement (\$25,000)

Approval of this request would enable replacement of a 1991 Ford F450 Dump Truck, which has serious engine and body issues. The cost represents an estimate for outright purchase. However, the amount could be less if a lease/purchase option is used, or if an estimate for major repairs to the existing truck proves to be a more cost-effective option.

I recommend that this docket OUGHT TO PASS.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Ciommo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Ciommo" clearly distinguishable.

Mark Ciommo, Chair
Committee on Ways & Means